



Parents Talk Bell Times, STEM, Testing & More!

October was a fantastic month! The PTA was busy with lots of fun programs and the amazing success of our Dash of the Runaway Wizards. I was so proud to be a Woodlin Wizard on that morning, watching the kids run and feeling energized by the support of so many parents who were there to cheer their children on. I was also invigorated by the productive conversations that were held in small groups at our PTA meeting. The enrichment group talked about the feasibility of developing a Science Fair or a STEM Day that would be supported by teaching staff. One advocacy group focused on facility/building improvements and brainstormed ways that our school could be improved when we are slated for either expansion or modernization. Another advocacy group focused on improving indoor recess and discussed testing, bell times and the school calendar. Another conversation focused on parent engagement and how the PTA can best outreach to all of our families.

I want to take a moment to encourage you become involved in the PTA. Whether you can offer a few hours to pitch in at the book fair, or you have the interest to pursue advocacy, or plan an event, we welcome your involvement. Without volunteers to act as coordinators, we will be unable to have an Auction or a Spring Fair this year. If you would like to sign up or to learn more, please contact me at president@woodlinpta.org.

Best, Karen Miller, Woodlin PTA President



This year's **National PTA Reflections** theme is: What is Your Story? Students may creatively express this theme through dance, film,

music composition, photography, literary art, visual art, and special art. The contest starts at Woodlin and winners in each category have the potential to move on to the county, state, and national levels.

Information can be found at <http://woodlinpta.org/pta-activities/reflections/>.

- ✓ Submissions should be turned into the student's teacher by **November 15, 2016**.
- ✓ All Woodlin submissions will be celebrated at the **December 6 PTA meeting**.

For questions, please contact Camille Parker at reflections@woodlinpta.org.



- ✓ November 7 & 8: **No School**
- ✓ November 9: **Dine Out" at Ledo's Pizza in Wheaton.** 15% of sales from customers who mention Woodlin or present the flyer will be donated to Woodlin
- ✓ November 10 & 11: **Early Release**
- ✓ November 10 & 11: **Book Fair at Woodlin!** Come join the fun and purchase holiday gifts
- ✓ November 15: **PTA Reflections Due**
- ✓ November 23: **Early Release**
- ✓ November 24-25: **No School**





The Woodlin PTA is fortunate to have dozens of wonderful volunteers who contribute to the success of our many events, fundraisers, and coordination efforts. Many of our volunteers are working parents, juggling multiple kids, activities and outside obligations. Their commitment and hard work benefit all of our children. Please join me in thanking some of our lead volunteers and their committees:

Open House: **Liz Fisher** did a fabulous job with Open House and set the tone for a great year. Woodlin loves Italian Ices and ice cream!

PTA Membership & Directory: Our membership and directory teams have been working tirelessly since the summer to welcome families and create our school directory, which will be coming home soon via backpack mail. **Colleen Mitchell, Sharyn Rosenberg, Kara Tymon, Malissa Lash, Amy Domire, and Carrie Wolinetz** have collectively worked hundreds of hours to create a user-friendly system for membership and to put together a directory for the Woodlin community.

Movie Night: **Asra Kidwai** planned our Movie Night for the second year. In spite of having to reschedule due to rain, it was a HUGE success and we thank her and her volunteers for such a fun evening.

Walk to School Day was a wonderful morning thanks to the efforts of **Rachel Posell** and **Emily Kirby**.

After School Clubs: The after school clubs program is a tremendous undertaking. **Megan Benson** should be recognized for her heroic efforts to get the program up and running, in spite of a last minute change in vendor. She has literally spent hundreds of hours on the phone, writing emails, and in meetings to ensure that our children have high quality after-school programming. Thank you also to **Daria Hall** for her support of Megan and for coordinating our Language Stars program.

Dash of the Runaway Wizards: And a HUGE thank you to **Allison Nadelhaft** and **Yasmin Matten** for all of the efforts on behalf of the Dash of the Runaway Wizards. They worked tirelessly to ensure that the day was a blast for the kids and to find community sponsors so that every child would have a t-shirt, water and a banana. A big thank you to the entire committee as well: **Emily Kirby, Jennifer Warren, Elizabeth Wenk, Kara Tymon, Susan McCollough, Mark Kennedy, Mandy Whitman, and Shannon Disney Bronaugh**.

Stay in the loop on all Woodlin's news & events! Join the PTA Listserve: Send a message to woodlnpt-subscribe@yahogroups.com